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Bush takes over CIA

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WASHINGTON—President Ford was the guest of honor at the swearing-in of George Bush as head of the Central Intelligence Agency Friday, but the whole show belonged to William Colby, the outgoing director fired by Ford two months ago.

From the time Colby led Mrs. Bush and Supreme Court Justice Potter Stewart onto the stage of the CIA auditorium until he drove away from the suburban Virginia supersecret intelligence complex in his 6-year-old car, he was the star.

It was his turf and his people. And the CIA employees who crowded into the auditorium were determined to show support for their fallen leader.

THERE WAS SUSTAINED standing applause when Colby arrived on stage, a few minutes before President Ford and Bush got there. In brief remarks introducing the audience to Ford, Colby said:

"Despite the tumult and the turmoil of the last year, they have continued to provide the best intelligence in the world. I am sure they will continue to provide it to Mr. Bush."

"You obviously have the support and deep feelings of all the people here," Ford said, hailing Colby for his fine record.

Recalling how Gen. Douglas MacArthur had said that in war there is no substitute for victory, Ford said, "In peace, there is no substitute for intelligence."

DESCRIBING THE intelligence community as the

nation's first line of defense, Ford said the time "is long overdue for the people of the intelligence community to receive our gratitude for their work."

Everyone has been concerned about past abuses in the intelligence community, Ford said, "But we cannot improve this agency by destroying it."

Promising to never permit America's intelligence capabilities to be undermined, Ford said, however, that such activities must be conducted under the law and "never directed against our own people."

Bush said the CIA must look to the future.

HE SAID THAT neither politics nor personal bias would be allowed to hamper CIA operations while he is director.

Without mentioning recent disclosures of assassination attempts on foreign leaders, Bush said he would review some past practices to see if they are necessary, adding that the agency's activities must always be compatible with the nation's moral standards.

After the swearing-in, Ford walked to the main administration building, about 100 yards from the auditorium, and shook hands with some CIA officials.

Colby didn't go in with him, however. As Ford went inside, Colby walked alone down a driveway to his car. Several hundred employees, some with tears in their eyes, applauded.

Then Colby, who as director was picked up and driven home by a chauffeur in a staff car, climbed behind the wheel of his 1970 Buick Skylark and drove away, waving briefly at his former colleagues.